WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2022 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 4559

By Delegates Hanshaw (Mr. Speaker), Steele, and Lovejoy

[Introduced February 07, 2022; Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary]

A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §61-12-16, relating to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, providing for the final disposition of unidentified and unclaimed remains in the possession of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner pursuant to legislative rule, and providing for emergency legislative rulemaking allowing for the final disposition of unidentified and unclaimed remains.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 12. POSTMORTEM EXAMINATIONS.

§61-12-16. Disposition of unidentified or unclaimed remains pursuant to legislative rule.

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner shall propose rules for legislative approval in accordance with the provisions of §29A-3-1 *et seq.* of this code which provide for the disposition of unidentified or unclaimed remains in the possession of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

Further, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner shall promulgate emergency rules pursuant to §29A-3-15 of this code providing for the disposition of unidentified or unclaimed remains in their possession.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to provide for legislative rulemaking relating to the disposition of unidentified and unclaimed remains in the possession of the Chief Medical Examiner.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.